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PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Guy AZAM et al.)
Appln. No. : Unassigned (PCT National) Group A.U. 3728
Phase of PCT/FR00/03661) (Anticipated)
I.A. Filed : December 22, 2000)
For : TIGHT SHOE LACE-UP DEVICE) Examiner Not Yet Assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of filing fees and prior to the first examination of the instant application, please enter the following amendment, which deletes multiple dependent claim relationships:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-10 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new claims 11-20 as follows:

RC Spt 20

11. A lace-up device adapted to equip footwear, the footwear including two portions to be brought closer together with said device, said device comprising:
a tightening zone comprising return elements positioned on said portions;